From: Morning Consult
To: jbianco@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech, Presented by the Electronic Payments Coalition: Google to Ban Ads for Cryptocurrencies Across Its Advertising Platforms, Effective in June
Date: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 5:33:57 AM

By Edward Graham

Top Stories

- Google LLC announced that it will ban advertisements for cryptocurrencies and other "speculative financial products" across its advertising platforms starting in June, following in the footsteps of a similar decision made by Facebook Inc. earlier this year. The growing popularity and price of bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies have led scammers to use digital ads to promote fraudulent schemes, and Google reported last year that it removed more than 130 million ads used for cryptocurrency mining. (The Wall Street Journal)

- YouTube LLC CEO Susan Wojcicki said the video-streaming platform will

in the next couple of weeks begin displaying information from Wikipedia alongside conspiracy theory videos to provide alternative viewpoints for controversial topics. Wojcicki, who announced the move during a panel at the South by Southwest conference in Austin, Texas, said that the new feature - which she referred to as "information cues" - would only focus on conspiracy theories that have "significant debate" on YouTube. (WIRED)

- First lady Melania Trump plans to meet with representatives from major tech companies, including Twitter Inc., Facebook Inc. and Google, to discuss strategies for combating online harassment and promoting safety, according to people familiar with her efforts. The meeting, reportedly scheduled for March 20 at the White House, would mark Trump's first policy push to follow through on her campaign to combat cyberbullying. (The Washington Post)

- Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) has suggested that Federal Communications Commission Enforcement Bureau official Geoffrey Starks succeed Mignon Clyburn as a Democratic FCC commissioner once she leaves the agency, according to Capitol Hill sources. It's customary for Senate majority and minority leaders to choose their party's FCC nominees, although the president can still nominate whomever he wants to the agency. (Multichannel News)

Chart Review

Where U.S. Adults Are Active on Social Media
Statista

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

WEDNESDAY

Satellite 2018 conference	7 a.m.
ICIT cyber intelligence briefing	7:30 a.m.
Senate Commerce Committee hearing on White House infrastructure proposal	10 a.m.
House Financial Services subcommittee hearing on	

cryptocurrencies	10 a.m.
Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force workshop on application process for Connect America Fund Phase II auction	11 a.m.
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform subcommittee hearing on federal IT technology	2 p.m.
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council 5G event with FCC Commissioner Carr	3 p.m.

THURSDAY

Satellite 2018 conference	8 a.m.
Politico Playbook interview with Bill Gates	8 a.m.
The Capitol Forum and American University Washington College of Law event on DOJ v. AT&T	9 a.m.
New America's OTI event on "Raising the Standard" project	9:30 a.m.
Senate Intelligence Committee confirmation hearing for Lt. Gen. Nakasone to be NSA director	10 a.m.
Cato event on wireless technology, feat. FCC's Pai	12 p.m.
SIIA event on cross-border data access	3 p.m.
Silicon Flatirons event on IoT cyber risks	4 p.m.
FCBA event with FCC and NTIA bureau and office chiefs	6 p.m.

FRIDAY

North American Numbering Council meeting	9:30 a.m.
OTI event on spectrum and vehicle-to-vehicle communication	12 p.m.
Hudson Institute event on resistance to FCC modernization	12 p.m.

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Ever wondered what happens when you use your card to make a purchase? Here's a glimpse behind the scenes.

In order to make it possible to use your card at the register or purchase something online, four groups work together to approve the payment. In just a few milliseconds, the merchant's bank, your bank or credit union, the card network, and the processor all verify the appropriate information, and they do this millions of times a day. Watch our brief rundown of how it all happens.

General

Stephen Hawking, cosmology's brightest star, dies aged 76
Ian Sample, The Guardian

Stephen Hawking, the brightest star in the firmament of science, whose insights shaped modern cosmology and inspired global audiences in the millions, has died aged 76. His family released a statement in the early hours of Wednesday morning confirming his death at his home in Cambridge.

Defense Agency To Begin Moving Classified Data to Amazon's Secret Cloud After Protest
Frank Konkel, Nextgov

For the first time, the Defense Department will begin moving classified data and applications to Amazon Web Services' Secret Region-the same cloud environment developed for the CIA and intelligence community several years ago. U.S. Transportation Command-the part of the department responsible for moving troops and equipment around the globe-announced its intent to make use of AWS' Classified Secret Commercial Cloud Services in December after the company expanded its capabilities and availability to non-intelligence agencies.

Major companies urge Senate to pass online sex trafficking bill
Harper Neidig, The Hill

A group of major companies that includes Disney, IBM and Oracle is urging the Senate to pass an online sex trafficking bill that some internet firms believe could upend what they see as crucial legal protections for their industry. In a letter that will be sent to Senate leaders on Tuesday, the companies, which have all been at odds with internet giants in the past, argued that the bill is necessary to crack down on the online sex trafficking trade.

Violent video games not welcome for Olympic esports consideration
Kyle Orland, Ars Technica

Those pushing for the $1.5 billion esports industry to be considered on equal footing with traditional sports got a big boost back in October when the International Olympic Committee (IOC) said that "competitive 'esports' could be considered as a sporting activity" for Olympic competition. It's becoming

increasingly clear, though, that the IOC won't even consider any esports that involve violence, a decision that eliminates many of the space's most popular games.

Tech Stocks Wounded by Trump Reshuffle, Blocked Broadcom Deal
Elena Popina, Bloomberg

Technology megacaps and semiconductor makers that led the U.S. market on its way up last week are now leading the market on its way down. A combination of factors contributed to the rout.

Stocks Gain as China Data Lift Miners; Euro Dips: Markets Wrap
Robert Brand, Bloomberg

Stocks in Europe advanced as economic data from China lifted mining shares after a day of market turmoil sparked by the latest shakeup in the Trump administration. The euro slipped as Mario Draghi said recent gains weren't all warranted by economic fundamentals.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

U.S. wants judge to exclude key AT&T argument in Time Warner merger trial
David Shepardson, Reuters

The U.S. Justice Department wants a judge to bar AT&T Inc from using a voluntary commitment it made on licensing content as part of its defense when an antitrust trial begins next week over the fate of the company's planned $85 billion merger with Time Warner Inc, court documents show. The Justice Department filed a lawsuit in November to stop AT&T, which owns DirecTV and other products with 25 million subscribers, from buying movie and TV show maker Time Warner, which owns HBO and CNN, among many other channels.

Rejection of Qualcomm-Broadcom Deal Followed Monthslong Strategy
Ted Greenwald et al., The Wall Street Journal

The Trump administration's extraordinary intervention against the $117 billion takeover of Qualcomm Inc. surfaced suddenly last week. But it was months in

the making.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

Sources: Starks Proposed for Democratic FCC Seat
John Eggerton, Broadcasting and Cable

According to sources on the Hill and off it, Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) has proposed FCC Enforcement Bureau official Geoffrey Starks to succeed Mignon Clyburn as Democratic FCC Commissioner when she decides to exit-or when a new nominee speeds that process. Customarily the Senate Minority Leader gets to choose Democratic FCC nominees.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Google to Ban Ads for Cryptocurrencies
Lara O'Reilly and Douglas MacMillan, The Wall Street Journal

Google is following Facebook 's lead by banning ads for cryptocurrencies and other "speculative financial products" across its advertising platforms. Alphabet Inc.'s Google said the new policy will become effective in June across ads bought on its search and display-advertising network, as well as its YouTube unit.

Youtube Will Link Directly to Wikipedia to Fight Conspiracy Theories
Louise Matsakis, WIRED

After the mass shooting in Parkland, Florida, in February, the top trending video on YouTube wasn't a news clip about the tragedy but a conspiracy theory video suggesting survivor David Hogg was an actor. The video garnered 200,000 views before YouTube removed it from its platform.

Melania Trump will meet with tech giants including Facebook and Google to talk cyberbullying
Tony Romm, The Washington Post

First lady Melania Trump plans to convene tech giants including Amazon, Facebook, Google, Twitter and Snap next week to discuss ways to combat

online harassment and promote Internet safety, according to four people familiar with her efforts. The meeting at the White House, slated for March 20, marks the first major policy push in the first lady's long-ago announced campaign to combat cyberbullying.

Lyft faces discrimination lawsuit
Megan Rose Dickey, TechCrunch

Disability Rights Advocates, on behalf of the Independent Living Resource Center and two people who use wheelchairs, filed a class-action lawsuit today against Lyft. The plaintiffs allege the ride-hailing company discriminates against people who use wheelchairs by not making available wheelchair-accessible cars in the San Francisco Bay Area.

France to sue Google, Apple over developer contracts: minister
Laurence Frost and Julie Carriat, Reuters

France will take Google and Apple to court over contractual terms imposed by the tech giants on startups and developers, said Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire. Speaking on RTL radio, Le Maire said on Wednesday he had become aware that Alphabet Inc.'s Google and Apple Inc. unilaterally imposed prices and other contractual terms on software developers.

Fitbit unveils Apple Watch competitor and fitness tracker for kids
Kaya Yurieff, CNN

Fitbit's latest trackers intend to lure more casual fitness fans, and even kids. The company announced two new products on Tuesday: Fitbit Versa, a smartwatch that is strikingly similar to the Apple Watch, and its first fitness tracker for kids, Fitbit Ace.

Amazon Mulled Buying Texture Before Apple Deal
Alex Barinka, Bloomberg

Amazon.com Inc. expressed interest in buying Texture before Apple Inc. acquired the digital magazine service, according to a person familiar with the matter. Next Issue Media LLC, owner of Texture, hired investment bank Moelis & Co. in the past year to advise on a sale process, said the person, who asked not to be identified because the matter is private.

Apple will unveil the next generation of iOS and macOS on June 4th

Tom Warren, The Verge

Apple's annual Worldwide Developers Conference will be held in June this year. Apple is planning to return to San Jose again in 2018, between June 4th and June 8th this time around. Developers can apply for tickets now through March 22 at 10AM PT / 1PM ET through Apple's WWDC site, and tickets will be issued randomly by March 23rd.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

Madison Square Garden Has Used Face-Scanning Technology on Customers
Kevin Draper, The New York Times

Madison Square Garden has quietly used facial-recognition technology to bolster security and identify those entering the building, according to multiple people familiar with the arena's security procedures. The technology uses cameras to capture images of people, and then an algorithm compares the images to a database of photographs to help identify the person and, when used for security purposes, to determine if the person is considered a problem.

Researchers Point to an AMD Backdoor-and Face Their Own Backlash
Andy Greenberg, WIRED

When the Spectre and Meltdown vulnerabilities were revealed in millions of processors earlier this year, those deep-seated vulnerabilities rattled practically the entire computer industry. Now a group of Israeli researchers is outlining a new set of chip-focused vulnerabilities that, if confirmed, would represent another collection of flaws at the core of computer hardware, this time in a processor architecture designed by AMD.

Exclusive: G20 financial heads to urge crypto-asset monitoring to safeguard financial stability
Jan Strupczewski, Reuters

The world's financial leaders will call on international standard-setting bodies on March 20 for stronger monitoring of crypto-assets and to assess the need for a multilateral response as such assets could at some point threaten financial stability. The call appears in a draft communique prepared for the meeting of

finance ministers and central bank governors of the world's 20 biggest economies in Buenos Aires on March 19-20, seen by Reuters.

A Message from the Electronic Payments Coalition:

Have you ever thought about what happens when you use a card at the register? Or when you order something online? Behind the scenes millions of times every day, a complex process plays out in just a few milliseconds. Four groups work together to make this complex transaction easy for you. Find out how it all works in our new video.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Endless Cycle of CRs Keeping Government Technology in the Past
Bob Osborn, Morning Consult

In my conversations with government CIOs and IT leaders, the most common reason they give me for why they can't make investments in new technology is the endless cycle of continuing resolutions (CR) that has been used to fund our government in recent years. CIOs do not know when or where they will find the money to retire legacy systems and make new investments in critical cybersecurity and cloud solutions.

Trump's Broadcom Veto
The Editorial Board, The Wall Street Journal

President Trump's veto of Singapore-based Broadcom 's hostile takeover of Qualcomm is playing in the media as political protectionism. But unlike with its steel tariffs, the Administration's national-security concerns in this case are legitimate.

The Real Problem With Video Games
Seth Schiesel, The New York Times

Donald Trump has long claimed that exposure to simulated violence in video games begets violent tendencies in real life. "Video game violence and glorification must be stopped - it is creating monsters!" he tweeted in 2012.

This major challenge to local news has gone almost unnoticed

Norman J. Ornstein, The Washington Post

The foundations of the U.S. political system have recently come under unprecedented threat, centered around manipulation by foreign powers - notably, the insidious role of Russian interference in our public debate - and the increasing domination of domestic news organizations by a small number of rich players. But one particular challenge, involving Sinclair Broadcast Group and local television ownership, has gone almost unnoticed.

The mind boggles at why some Republicans want an Internet sales tax
Jason Pye, Washington Examiner

Congressional Republicans are in a strange place at the moment. Democrats wrongly criticize the landmark "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" as a giveaway to corporate giants that largely ignores average Americans. Yet, rather than defending the pro-growth momentum carried forward by tax reform, some Republicans are promoting an Internet sales tax that plays right into this false Democratic narrative.

Silicon Valley's Demise Has Been Postponed Again
Justin Fox, Bloomberg

Silicon Valley is totally over, right? I mean, it says so in the New York Times, which ran a much-discussed story last week headlined "Silicon Valley Is Over, Says Silicon Valley."

Research Reports

Impact of Federal Regulatory Reviews on Small Cell Deployment
Accenture Strategy and Accenture Network Practice

The objective of this paper is to independently assess the impacts of regulatory reviews required for the National Historic Preservation Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NHPA/NEPA) on 5G small cell roll-outs by U.S. wireless carriers.

Evaluation of DHS' Information Security Program for FY 2017
Office of Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security

We reviewed DHS' information security program in accordance with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA). Our objective was to determine whether DHS' information security program and practices were adequate and effective in protecting the information and information systems that supported DHS' operations and assets in fiscal year 2017.

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